

**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

February 11, 2016

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

We urge you to use the authority granted to you under the Antiquities Act to designate certain lands in California managed by the Bureau of Land Management as part of the California Coastal National Monument, the offshore monument created by President Clinton in 2000 to protect the small islands, exposed reefs, and pinnacles along the 1,100-mile California coast. Designating each of these land areas as individual units of the larger National Monument will create a network of protected onshore federal coastal lands. These additions will provide improved access to the California Coastal National Monument and numerous benefits to the well-being of the land and neighboring communities, while providing important protections for these unique and historically important areas.

On March 8, 2014, you established the first land-based unit of the California Coastal National Monument, protecting 1,665 acres along the Mendocino County coastline commonly known as the Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands. Our proposals to further expand the California Coastal National Monument, as referenced in our legislation, S.1971 and H.R.3565, the California Coastal National Monument Expansion Act, build upon the vision that both you and President Clinton have exemplified in your previous Presidential Proclamations.

Our California Coastal National Monument Expansion proposals would cumulatively designate over 6,000 acres of existing Bureau of Land Management coastal properties in Humboldt, Santa Cruz, and San Luis Obispo Counties to be individual units within the California Coastal National Monument. These proposals include properties that are part of the California Coastal Collaborative, a Bureau of Land Management program that aims to collaboratively manage coastal public lands with emphasis on building community partnerships and local economies, providing enhanced administrative and conservation services, and providing outreach and environmental education. The Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands are also part of this Collaborative. Adding these sites to the National Monument would ensure that the benefits derived from this program are permanently instituted and would strengthen management partnerships with the various government partners and stakeholders interested in the care of these magnificent open spaces.

These coastal areas feature exceptional historical, cultural, scientific, ecological, and recreational values. Applying National Monument status to them will ensure that these features are managed appropriately and that each site's distinct qualities and unique characteristics are highlighted in future land management decisions. It would also allow the Bureau of Land Management to have greater ability to share administrative and management resources in implementing common goals across all units, while providing greater attention to local needs and priorities – such as conservation, restoration, historic preservation, recreational access, public safety needs, infrastructure development, and economic investments.

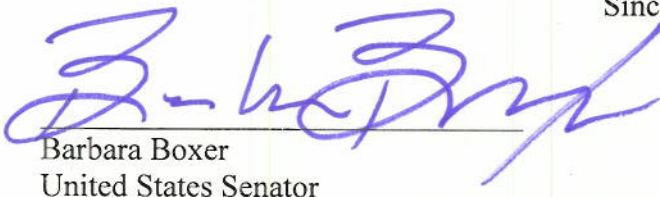
Furthermore, these diverse lands contain redwoods, terrace grasslands, coastal bluffs, watersheds, historic lighthouses, panoramic views of nature, and habitat for marine mammals, birds, and other wildlife including endangered species. Such geographic and natural resource diversity is worthy of permanent preservation through National Monument status.

As you consider our request to expand the California Coastal National Monument to encompass additional Bureau of Land Management coastal lands, we urge you to consult with land managers of neighboring non-federal publicly-owned lands to extend the National Monument designation to those adjacent lands, where appropriate. A shared designation will provide seamless management with adjoining state parks and open spaces managed by other entities, bringing greater distinction and awareness to these breathtaking places.

For all of these reasons, we respectfully ask you to use your authority to include these unique public lands in the California Coastal National Monument. The preservation of these lands will ensure that local residents and visitors alike can enjoy some of the most beautiful and historically significant coastal areas in California for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration of our request. We look forward to working with you on this matter and appreciate your ongoing leadership in bringing greater prominence and attention to California's scenic coast.

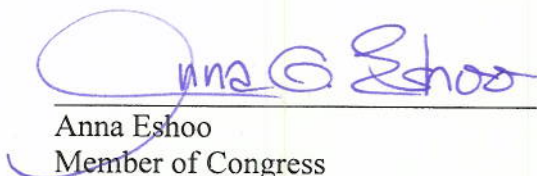
Sincerely,



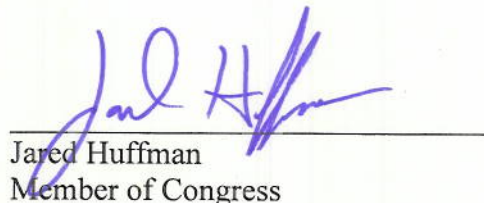
Barbara Boxer  
United States Senator



Lois Capps  
Member of Congress



Anna Eshoo  
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman  
Member of Congress